



RECEIVED
JAN 09 2004
C 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
OKANO et al.)
Application Number: 10/018,430)
Filed: December 20, 2001)
For: CENTRIFUGAL SEPARATOR AND SAMPLE)
PREPARATION DEVICE USING THE SEPARATOR)
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0050)
Art Unit 1723
Examiner:
Dodge, Joseph W.

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

This is in response to the office action dated October 7, 2003, in the above identified application, the period for response is set to expire on January 7, 2004. Please amend the above identified application as follows: